Expansion of Centrally-sponsored health facilities

†3538. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to make Centrally-sponsored health facilities accessible to every nook and corner of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step in this direction;

(c) if so, the details thereof and to what extent and by when the people of Gujarat are likely to be benefited; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) National Health programmes for the control of major diseases like Malaria, TB, Blindness, AIDS and Leprosy are being implemented in the entire country including Gujarat as Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Intensive public awareness activities are regularly undertaken as a part of national disease control programmes using mass media, like television, radio, press, rural folk media, family health awareness campaigns, etc., to disseminate information about these programmes and also bring about a behavioural change among the population.

Amendment in Legislation to check entry of dangerous drugs

†3539. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, ''Partibandhit Davayen Bharat Mein Khapane Par Amada Hain Bahurashtriya Companian'', which appeared in the Rashtriya Sahara, dated the 2nd April, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government would amend the law to check these dangerous drugs being brought into the country by the multinational companies to save the lives of the people; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Under the provision of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 drugs are permitted to be brought into the country for marketing only after examining their safety, efficacy and quality. Drugs like Septran, Ciprofloxocin or Ciprobid, Paracetamol etc. were permitted for marketing after due examination of their rationality. Office of DCG(I) has not received any complaint or information that the drugs which are banned / prohibited in the developed countries are being used or experimented on patients in the Government or Private Hospitals of Delhi.

(c) and (d) Since adequate provision exists for prohibiting the import, manufacture and sale of a drug found hazardous or irrational, the question of amending the law does not arise.

Siddha dispensaries working under CGHS

†3540. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Siddha system dispensaries working presently under Central Government Health Scheme in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware that mostly prescribed medicines are not available in these dispensaries and the medicines indented by them are also not provided;

(c) whether Government intend to give importance to Siddha or Ayurveda Systems of medicines; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not providing adequate medicines to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Only one Siddha Unit is functioning under CGHS Delhi.

(b) There is sufficient stock of medicines in the CGHS Siddha Unit in Delhi and no complaint in this regard has been received.

(c) The Government has given due importance to the Siddha and Ayurveda Systems of medicines as there are CGHS dispensaries / Units in these systems.

(d) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.